(c)if so, whether India has decided to pursue its proposal for gas export from Bangladesh; and

(d)if so, whether any agreement has been reached and signed with Nepal, Sri Lanka and Bhutan for supply of power to India?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (d) India has agreement of co-operation with Bhutan and Nepal for exchange of power. The cooperation between India and Bhutan in the field of hydropower has been helpful in meeting the gap in energy demand of the country. The bulk of the power generated from the hydroelectric projects at Tala (1020 MW), Chukka (336MW) and Kurichhu (60 MW) in Bhutan, which have been implemented with technical and financial assistance of India, is exported to India, The inter-border exchange of power between India and Nepal has also been taking place for mutual benefit of the two countries under a bilateral arrangement.

There is no agreement for exchange of power with any other country except Bhutan and Nepal. However, discussions have been held with the South Asian countries in the fora of South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC) and BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) covering many areas of cooperation, including power.

As regard the gas imports, the Government of India has consistently taken up the issue of export of gas by Bangladesh to India. However, it is for Bangladesh to decide whether it is in a position to do so.

Rural electrification in Andhra Pradesh

1441. SHRI C. RAMACHANDRAIAH: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a)whether Government's rural electrification programme aims to electrify all villages by the year 2010;

(b)if so, the number of villages in Andhra Pradesh and Orissa which have been electrified so far;

(c)whether there is any sanctioned scheme awaiting release of funds by Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) for electrifying the districts of Andhra Pradesh; and

(d) if so, the district-wise unreleased amount along with the reasons for delay, if any?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) The Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana (RGGVY) launched in April, 2005 aims at electrification of all the un-electrified villages/habitations (excluding approximately 25000 villages to be covered by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy) by 2009.

(b) The proposal from Andhra Pradesh is for intensive electrification of already electrified villages only. Accordingly, 226654 rural households have been electrified so far, all of which are BPL under intensive electrification of already electrified villages. In Orissa, awards are yet to be placed for sanctioned projects and therefore no village is as yet electrified under RGGVY.

(c) and (d) Yes, Sir. District-wise status of claims received from Andhra Pradesh pending with Rural Electrification Corporation (REC) as on 5.3.2007 is given in the Statement (See below). The Ministry of Power is in the process of releasing funds as per the claims received.

Statement

Status of pending claims under RGGVY in Andhra Pradesh

SI. No.	Name of District	Claim pending (Rs. in Lakhs)
1	2	3
1	Mahboob Nagar	1698.46
2	Srikakulam	1655.28
3	Chittoor	1095.96
4	Krishna	832.82
5	Kadapa	943.97
6	Vizianangaram	1256.02
7	Nizamabad	791.78
8	Kurnool	1115.45

1	2	3
9	West Godavari	981.91
10	Prakasham	1015.46
11	Nalgonda	942.05
12	Nellore	1026.27
13	Ailabad	1260.67
	TOTAL:	14616.11

Rural electrification

1442. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages/rural habitations targeted to be electrified under Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana for the year 2005-06 and the actual number of villages/rural habitations electrified during the year; and

(b) the funds allocated for rural electrification projects during the year 2006-07 and the number of villages electrified in the year upto 31st December, 2006?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) the target fixed by the Government for electrification of villages during 2005-06 was 10,000 against which the implementing States have reported electrification of 9819 villages.

(b) The funds allocated for Rajiv Gandhi Grameen Vidyutikaran Yojana for 2006-07 is Rs. 3000 crores. The implementing agencies have reported electrification of 17211 villages under RGGVY during current fiscal year upto 31st December, 2006.

Transmission losses in NDMC area

1443. SHRIMATI JAYA BACHCHAN: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the details of the transmission losses of power in the NDMC area and the rest of Delhi;